

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

THE TRIAL COURT

PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT DEPARTMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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PRESS RELEASE

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PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT ANNOUNCES CLIENT TRUST FUND PROJECT TRAININGS FOR GUARDIANS AD LITEM

The Probate and Family Court Administrative Office will be presenting a series of training programs for guardians ad litem regarding the Client Trust Fund Project. The Client Trust Fund Project involved the establishment of trusts created in the early 1980's to hold the assets of mentally retarded persons who are, or formerly were, under the care of the Commonwealth. All of these trusts are now under the supervision of the Probate and Family Court. There are hundreds of trusts in the various counties, involving, in the aggregate, millions of dollars.

In order to ensure that these trusts are being properly managed and also utilized to meet the needs of the mentally retarded persons for whom the trusts were originally established, the Administrative Office will be holding the trainings to discuss the duties and responsibilities of guardians ad litem who will be appointed from the SJC Rule 1:07 **Category D** list.

There will no charge to attend this training. In order to attend the training and receive appointments as guardian ad litem in client trust fund project cases, guardians ad litem must currently be approved to receive appointments under **Category D** and **attend <u>one</u> of the following trainings**:

- The first training will be held at the Middlesex Probate and Family Court, 208
 Cambridge Street, East Cambridge, on <u>June 3, 2008, from 4:00 P.M. until 6:00 P.M.</u>
- The second training will be held at the Worcester Probate and Family Court, 225 Main Street, Worcester, on June 4, 2008, from 5:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M.
- The third training will be held at the Norfolk Probate and Family Court, 35 Shawmut Road, Canton, on June 12, 2008, from 4:00 P.M. until 6:00 P.M.

To sign up for a training please contact Cindy Leahy, List Coordinator, at the Probate and Family Court Administrative Office, 617-788-6600 or at cynthia.leahy@jud.state.ma.us